

What's Happening at SECA

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New Public Policy Resources from SECA

In September we posted a new public policy brief on our website.

You'll find the following available:

Health Care Reform: Chapter 3

Coming in October

Kids Count 2009

Health Care Reform: Chapter 3 Update

SECA Radio Debuts!

We're pleased to announce that SECA Radio is now available on the SECA website. We've entered a partnership with the BAM Radio Network and we're beginning to produce interviews with early childhood professional experts that we think you'll find both entertaining and educational.



Steven Gross of Project Joy

Our first interview was posted on the website

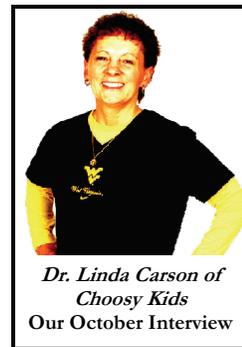
in September, and we were pleased to have **Steven Gross** as our first guest. Steven is the *2010 SECA Friend of Children*

and he's being recognized at SECA 2010 in Little Rock for his work with children and program staff along the Mississippi Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Steven is the founder of Project Joy, a national initiative designed to bring "joy" back into the lives of children, families and caregivers. You can find more information about Steven and Project Joy at

www.projectjoy.com

Our next interview was just posted and you'll find information about *Choosy Kids* and its creator, **Dr. Linda Carson**. *Choosy Kids* is an effort to educate children about making good choices and healthy living and features a character called "Choosy". Their motto is

"Be Choosy, Be Healthy!"
This interview helps support



Dr. Linda Carson of Choosy Kids Our October Interview

our focus on the fight against childhood obesity. For more information go to

www.choosykids.org

We'll post a new interview around the first of each month over the next year and our November interview will be with **Donald Davis**, a storyteller who will share why storytelling is so important to young children.

We hope you'll join us at SECA 2010 next January to meet all these experts in person! See you in Little Rock.

How to Use the SECA Radio Interviews

Although just listening to the interviews is an education in itself, we know that you're always looking for ways to extend learning and expand professional development opportunities for your staff. In order to help you with that

process, we're posting some resource materials to go along with the interviews on the **"members-only"** section of the SECA website.

We're also in the development phase of staff training modules that will use the

interviews as a springboard for discussion, and you'll find them in the "members-only" section beginning in November. It's a SECA member benefit that we hope will provide a cost effective way of utilizing these experts to enhance your training.

New SECA Display Boards Purchased for Each State

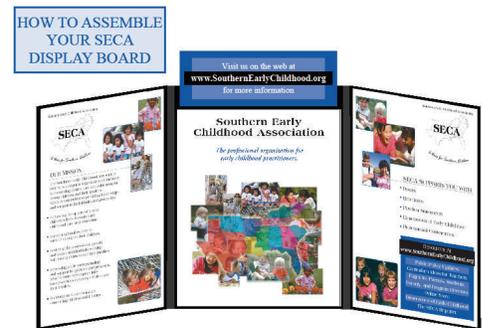
During the last few years, the SECA display board that's used at state affiliate conferences has traveled with the SECA representative. You'd see the President, President-Elect or Immediate Past-President either carrying a small blue board off the airplane or pulling that bag from the baggage carousel.

With the advent of bag charges on all the airlines and shipping them by UPS to conferences an impossibility, the SECA Board of Directors decided at

the summer Board meeting to purchase a display board that would remain in your state with your state representative.

These boards were purchased specifically for use at the state affiliate conferences; however, they are also available to any local organization that would like to use them. If you would like to have a SECA display at your local or other organizational meeting, contact your state representative on the SECA Board. You'll find

their contact information on the Leadership page of the SECA website.



Building a Shared Future: SECA 2010 Leadership Summit



SECA has a great diversity of generations in its membership. Let's encourage them to become our next leaders!

This year at the **2010 Leadership Summit**, we're focusing on the issue of generational differences and similarities and how they influence the leadership development process that is so crucial to the health and well-being of our state affiliates.

Debra Trude-Suter, the Director of Training for the McCormick Tribune Center for Early Childhood Leadership, will present a session entitled *Building a Shared Future—Nurturing Cross-Generational Relationships*.

Debra will provide practical ideas on how to build positive connections, suggestions for planning events to connect the generations and sample activity kits.

We all know that attracting and including the younger generation in our state leadership structure is essential to the long-term health and well-being of our Association.

In the next month, the state affiliate Presidents will receive information about the Summit and how to register your state's delegates. **We look forward to welcoming you to the 2010 SECA Summit!**

Special Thursday Sessions at SECA 2010

We're trying something a little different this year and we've invited a special group of our conference exhibitors to bring their trainers to SECA 2010.

These won't be sales presentations but we've asked them to introduce new products in their training to help you learn how to use these new additions to their catalogs effectively.

The exhibitors who will have these special presentations are:

Frog Street Press

High Reach Learning

High Scope Educational Research Foundation

Kaplan

Lakeshore Learning, Inc.

Read MTI

They have wonderful trainers, and we've got a great list of presentations. These sessions are free to all conference registrants. For a complete list of the sessions, go to our website and check out the conference page.

Help Us Find SECA's Next President!

Every two years, SECA begins the search for our next President and this is the year for nominations to be submitted. The election will take place in the fall of 2010 and we'll determine the candidates for this election at the SECA 2010 conference.

Nominations may be submitted by :

- State affiliates.
- Individuals.
- Self-nomination.



Janie Humphries
2009 SECA
President-Elect

Nominations should be received in the

Nominations should include:

1. A letter of intent stating why this person should be considered and what service the person has rendered to the organization.
2. A copy of the nominee's vita/ resume.

SECA office no later than December 15, 2009.

Nominees will be interviewed by the SECA Nominating Committee at the 2010 conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the selected candidates will be announced at the annual business meeting.

Nominees who are selected as candidates should be prepared to provide brief remarks at the business meeting.

We're looking forward to receiving your nominations!

SECA and State Affiliate Conferences: Our New Training Option

Each fall, SECA goes "on the road" to help your members learn about their organization and the benefits we can provide. In 2009, the SECA President, Georgia Lamirand, the SECA President-Elect, Dr. Janie Humphries, and the SECA Executive Director, Glenda Bean, have traveled to all states with fall conferences.

During our visits, we have provided a "welcome from SECA" at general sessions, attended state board meetings, helped with registration, manned the

SECA table to meet conference attendees and distribute literature, provided workshops and presentations and generally helped wherever we could.

In Kentucky, we offered a new option to our conference support. Dr. Janie Humphries and Glenda Bean presented a full training day entitled "SECA Day at KAECE". This training was the pilot of a program that SECA will develop to provide training as a pre-conference session upon the request of state affiliates.

The first training was attended by about 40

individuals and was focused on disaster preparedness for early childhood programs. (This topic was requested by the state affiliate.) SECA prepared all promotional materials and training materials, scheduled any additional speakers and provided a continental breakfast for participants.

If your state is interested in trying this option, contact Glenda Bean at gbean@southernearlychildhood.org for more information.

SECA Reporter is Going On-Line

With the fall 2009 issue of the **SECA Reporter**, we're going on-line with the publication to make your membership dues go farther as we enhance membership benefits.

The Reporter will now be published 4 times per year and will be posted on the SECA website. When the issue

is available, we'll send an e-mail to our membership lists and include a link to the newsletter. Past issues of the *Reporter* are archived on the website..

With this decision, we're not only saving around \$30,000 per year, we're increasing the number of issues that you'll receive. (This figure includes

production, printing and postage to almost 20,000 members.)

We're going to mail a postcard to all members without an e-mail address on our system. Please help us encourage your members to respond. We don't want anyone to miss out on this wonderful, expanded member benefit!

Southern Early Childhood Association

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The Voice for Southern Children

We're on the web!
www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org

Southern Early Childhood Association



2009 SECA Board of Directors

Georgia Lamirand (OK) , President

Janie Humphries (LA), President-Elect

Dee Ard, AL State Representative

Dr. Joanna Grymes, AR State Representative & Prof Dev Chair

Sister Roberta Bailey, FL State Representative

Beth Parr, GA State Representative

Kathy Attaway, KY State Rep, Secretary & Membership Chair

Cindy Ramagos, LA State Representative

Beverly Peden, MS State Representative

Susan Carrigan, OK St Rep, Vice-President & Leadership Chair

Crystal Campbell, SC State Representative

Debbie Ferguson, TN State Representative & Financial Officer

Judy Carnahan-Webb, TX State Representative

Toni Cacace-Beshears, VA State Representative

Melanie Clark, WV State Representative

Dr. Herman Knopf, (SC), Member-at-Large & Public Policy Chair

Carol Montealegre (FL), Member-at-Large

Go to the SECA website for e-mail addresses for the Board.

SECA Executive Committee to Meet In October

The Executive Committee of the SECA Board of Directors will meet in Little Rock on October 28-30, 2009 for the last meeting of the 2009 fiscal year.

You will recall that we modified our regular Board meeting schedule in 2009 to include full Board meetings in January and June/July and an Executive Committee in the fall. This change was made to ensure that the full Board met approximately every 6 months, and that the Executive Committee met prior to the end of the fiscal year to consider a budget for the next year and to prepare for the annual conference.

The full Board will meet by conference call at 4:00 CST on October 29,

2009 to formally consider and adopt a 2010 SECA budget.

This meeting will be the last meeting for several of our Board members and the last meeting for Georgia Lamirand as SECA President. All out-going Board members will continue to serve until the end of the year, but this meeting and conference call mark the last "formal" meeting of the group unless a special vote or call is scheduled.

We'll be saying good-bye to :

Debbie Ferguson of Tennessee (our Fiscal Officer)

Kathy Attaway of Kentucky (our Secretary),

Toni Cacace-Beshears of Virginia, a

member of our Leadership Commission, and

Beth Parr of Georgia, a member of our Public Policy Commission.

Their service has been invaluable, and we want to express our appreciation for their commitment to SECA. New members will be:

Lisa Maddox-Vinson of Tennessee

Katie Shaughnessy- Williams of Kentucky

Joyce P. Jones of Virginia.

We are still awaiting confirmation of the new Board member from Georgia.

If you have any issues to be considered by the Executive Committee, please e-mail them to Georgia at glamirand@francistuttle.com.